

PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Goring Way

25.02.2018

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The Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday	24 th	6.00 pm	Johannah O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday	25 th	8.15 am	The Parish
		1 0.30 am	Intention of Andy & Sandy Curd
Monday	26 th	9.30 am	Intention of Eileen
Tuesday	27 th	9.30 am	Dominic Lambert & Lourdes Mary Mark RIP
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	28 th	9.30 am	Reg Marshall RIP
		7.00 pm	Divine Mercy Lent Group
Thursday	1 st	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.30 pm	Intention of Dori Cooper
Friday	2 nd	9.30 am	Lily Frisby RIP
		2.30 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer
		7.30 pm	Prayer Group
Saturday	3 rd	6.00 pm	Muriel Day RIP
Sunday	4 th	8.15 am	John Roe RIP
		10.30 am	James & Josephine Shore RIP
		6.00 pm	Polish Mass



SATURDAY: Exposition with Benediction: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15 – 10.45 am & 5.15 - 5.45 pm

COLLECTIONS: Church: £589 Thank you for your generosity.

The second collection today is for your CAFOD Fast Day Offerings. If you are a tax-payer please fill in the Gift Aid form and place it in the special Fast Day envelope together with your offering.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Grace West, Christine Watson, David Hall, Ann & Gordon Milne, Anne Whitehead, Bernard Bandy, Jeany, Peter, Deacon Pat Moloney, Yvonne Carter, Finlay, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Andrew Kennedy, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Ann Wesley, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Leslie Lee, Kerry McStravick, Gerry Potter, Lydia Van Melsen, Edna Catley

2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Joseph Shepherd, Noreen Sumner, Sheila Szymuda, Eileen Fuscuardi, Cecelia Boakes, Mary Hancy, Ted Leach, Marion Kurkowski, Frederick Wolford, Mary Eldred, Thomas Peeney, Mary Alder, Anna Kelledy, Olive Pickthall, Eileen Godfrey

3. WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be taking place worldwide on Friday 2nd March. Please join us **here** at English Martyrs at 2.30pm.

4. PRAYING FOR OUR PARISH. We would like to invite you to join us for our next 2 sessions of the Parish Prayer group on Friday 2nd March and Friday 16th March. We will be coming together to pray for our parish - all that we are doing, growing and being led into in the future. "Prayer and community are always found together, because the same Spirit who prays in us is the Spirit who binds us together into one body as we are called to love each other and work for a renewed world" Henri Nouwen.

5. READERS & MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: March/Easter rosters are now available in the Sacristy.

6. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY' in aid of our Parish Project, will take place on Saturday 17th March at 7.00 pm in the Barn. Irish Step Dancers, three course traditional Irish Supper – Bacon & Cabbage - Homemade desserts, Irish Coffee, Bar, a Sing-a-long and Raffle,. Come and enjoy an evening of fun, good food music and dance. Donations of Raffle prizes would be appreciated. Tickets on sale after all Masses **next** weekend: Adults £7.50, Children £4.00

7. ST. VALENTINE'S EVENING CANDLELIT DINNER was a great success and our thanks go to all who worked so hard to make this so. £701 was raised for the Parish Project.

8 TRADCRAFT will be on sale after all Masses next weekend

9. THE LENTEN ALMS BOX is in the front porch next to the main door. The proceeds are sent to the Contemplative Orders of women in the Diocese

10. HANDMADE MOTHER'S DAY AND EASTER CARDS now available in the Repository. Proceeds to Kalinglinga

11. ENGLISH MARTYRS QUIZ TEAM: The Knights of St Columba are planning a Deanery Quiz Night and each parish needs an ace Quiz Team. Would you quizzers like to join the English Martyrs Team? If you would like to support the parish in this way please contact David Wynn-Davies as soon as possible on 07790 480356

12. PRAYER PARTNERS are sought for our fifteen First Holy Communion children. Please sign against the symbol for the child of your choice on the poster on the wall at the back of the Church. We pray for these children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 20th May.

13. MARY'S MEALS: We are now in particular need of Soap, Toothpaste, Pencil Cases and A5 Exercise Books or Reporter's Notepads. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks

14. WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS: Urgently needed this month: Tea, Coffee, Cooking Oil, Squashes, Ketchup, brown sauce, salad cream, Washing powder/tabs, Washing up liquid, Shampoo/Conditioner, Shower Gel, Cereals (no Cornflakes or porridge). Many thanks to those who are so generous in their donations

Father Liam says: Today we conclude the account of the martyrdom of St Robert Southwell, a Jesuit priest who was executed on 3rd March 1595 in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1970. He was put to death in Tyburn, where Edgware Road joins the western end of Oxford Street at Marble Arch. In the centre of the road a triangular brass marks the place where the three cornered gallows formerly stood. Nearby is a beautiful chapel where there is perpetual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Convent of the Benedictine Adorers of the Sacred Heart. Chatsmore used to be known as Blessed Robert Southwell School

Father Henry Garnett wrote to his Jesuit superiors in Rome describing what occurred as his friend was speaking before his death. "A troublesome minister here said, 'Master Southwell, explain yourself; for if you understand what you say according to the Council of Trent it is damnable.' The crowd of bystanders ordered the foolish minister to be silent and the father replied: 'Master minister, trouble me not I pray you at this time. I am a Catholic and, interpret it as you will, I trust to be saved by the merits and passion of our Saviour. As to the queen, I have never attempted or thought any evil against her; indeed I have always prayed to our Lord, and in this little space of time that I have yet to breathe I will not cease to pray, that of His great mercy, and for the sake of His precious blood and glorious wounds, He may vouchsafe to give her those gifts and graces which His divine wisdom sees to be fittest for the salvation of body and soul in this life and the next. I now commend to the hands of Almighty God my unhappy country, that of His mercy He may fill it with that knowledge and understanding of His truth which most may lead to the salvation of souls and to His eternal glory.'

"When he had said this he caught sight of one of ours (a fellow Jesuit) who gives this account and threw his handkerchief towards him, which however did not reach him. He then went on with his speech. 'Lastly,' he said 'I commend to the hands of Almighty God this my poor soul; this wretched body I leave to the queen's will; and I pray that this my death may be useful to myself and my country, and may be a consolation to others.' "And then, while waiting for the cart to be driven away, he made the sign of the cross and lifting his face to heaven he said: 'Into thy hands O Lord I commend my spirit.' As there was still some time remaining he uttered with the greatest devotion some sentences of the Psalms, as 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel'; 'The just wait for me until Thou reward me'; 'Create a clean heart in me O God'; (as well as) 'Holy Mary, Mother of God, and all the Saints, intercede for me.'

"As the cart was driven away he signed himself, saying 'Into Thy hands O Lord.' Whilst hanging from the gallows he often made the sign of the cross for the rope was badly placed on his neck) until the hangman pulled his legs (which is an unusual act of humanity with us) and then he closed his eyes which till then were open. An officer often tried to cut the rope but was prevented by Lord Mountjoy and by all the people, who three times cried out: 'Leave him,'

"The hangman took him down with much reverence and with his attendants carried him in his arms to the place of his disembowelling. Others they usually drag along the ground in a very inhuman way. One of the pursuivants declared that he had never seen a man die more piously.

"That is what I am able to write at present. Next week the rest shall be written and perhaps the two letters will reach your paternity together. Meanwhile let us give you joy and by your prayers prepare us, of all the most unworthy, for similar combats; for I cannot see how long I can escape the enemies' hands. This one thing I pray, that my sins may not keep me from the combat or make me less valiant in the fight; and I do not doubt your paternity, by your holy sacrifices, will gain this for me. "Your reverence's unworthy Son and Servant in Christ. "Henry Garnett"

No doubt, Father Garnett did write to his Superior in Rome a further letter about the death of his friend but there is no trace of it. He mentioned two exceptional circumstances about the execution. Normally the victim would be cut down and disembowelled alive and dragged, still alive along the ground where the body would be cut into four parts. Hence the phrase, hung, drawn and quartered. This did not happen in Robert Southwell's case. There was another unusual detail – not mentioned by Henry Garnett. When St Robert Southwell's head was cut off it was not held up so the crowd could see it and cry 'traitor'. This was so contrary to the practice of the time where Catholics were put to death for their faith. So we come to the end of a letter of one martyr (Henry Garnett) about another.

We conclude with a short note from a letter another martyr, St Philip Howard wrote from his prison to Robert Southwell before he was taken prisoner. 'My dear and reverent Father, this being the last time that I think I shall ever send unto you I should be very ungrateful if I should not now express my gratitude in words. I could not be more bound to any man – nor to any but one of your calling – so much, and all this in a time when such comforts were most welcome.'

I am indebted to the Editor of 'The Triumphs over Death' John William Trotman